

Message Text

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ACTION OPIC-12

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FM AMEMBASSY DACCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9745

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PASS OPIC

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TAGS: EAID, BG

SUBJECT: VINNELL- ZACHRY- PERINI CLAIM: RECOVERED EQUIPMENT

REF: STATE 77720

SUMMARY: THIS MESSAGE REPORTS CURRENT STATUS VZP- OPIC CONSIDERATION SUNDRY QUESTIONS RE RECOVERED EQUIPMENT.

1. WITH REGARD TO SCHEDULE A ITEMS 19-7-2 AND 22-2 (CAT D-7 WITH BLADE) MENTIONED PARA 1 REFTEL, VZP PROJECT MANAGER ERSKINE WROTE EMBASSY MAY 9 THAT VZP " NOW PROCEEDING RECOVER" BOTH ITEMS. ERSKINE STATED THAT " TRACTOR HAS BEEN LYING ABANDONED ACROSS THE JAMUNA RIVER ABOVE ARICHA. WHEN DISCOVERY AND EXAMINATION WERE MADE, IT WAS FOUND THAT THE ENGINE AND SUPERCHARGER WERE FROZEN DUE TO WATER AND WEATHER EXPOSURE. THEY HAVE SINCE BEEN FREED AND THE TRACTOR WILL BE MOVED TO OUR SHOP AREA. AFTER COMPLETION EXAMINATION OF THE TRACTOR'S CONDITION AN OFFER FOR REPURCHASE WILL BE MADE CONSISTENT WITH THE OFFERS MADE ON PREVIOUS RECOVERIES. WE PREFER TO MAKE PAYMENT FOR THE TRACTOR IN TAKAS. KINDLY ADVISE IF THIS IS AGREEABLE."

2. USAID ENGINEER SOL H. BROWN PLANS INSPECT AFOREMENTIONED EQUIPMENT WHEN BROUGHT TO VZP WORKSHOP. VZP HAVING PROBLEMS ARRANGING FERRYING OF EQUIPMENT ACROSS JAMUNA. EMBASSY WILL FORWARD INSPECTION REPORTS TO OPIC WHEN AVAILABLE.

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3. ACCORDING VZP OFFICIALS ERSKINE AND HILL, SCHEDULE B ITEM NO. 31-6-2, CAT FRONT- END LEADER, HAS NEVER BEEN LCOATED ALTHOUGH VZP ONCE HEARD REPORT THAT LOADER HAD BEEN SEEN IN OPERATION. HOWEVER, WHEN VZP INVESTIGATED THAT REPORT, LOADER COULD NOT BE FOUND. VZP CONTINUING SEARCH AND SAYS IT HAS REQUESTED ASSISTANCE OF BDG ENTITIES IN LOCATING EQUIPMENT.

4. EMBOFF ASKED ERSKINE ABOUT " BURNED- OUT" SCHEDULE C ITEMS CITED PARA 3 DACCA 4316. ERSKINE SAID VZP' S OFFER OF \$800 FOR SALVAGE- ABLE PARTS FROM BURNED- OUT WRECKS " STILL STANDS." EMBTEL INDICATED VZP WISHED DISCARD REMAINING JUNK AS WELL AS ALL BURNED TIRES LISTED SCHEDULE C. PARA 4 (A) OF WILSON' S JANUARY 15, 1973, REPORT TO HERMAN KATZ OF OPIC STATED THAT WILSON HAD INSPECTED ALL SCHEDULE C ITEMS WHICH FOUND IN " COMPLETELY BURNED OUT CONDITION WITH NO MAJOR REPAIRABLE COMPONENTS." IN PARA 7 (1) OF THAT LETTER, WILSON REPORTED THAT " THIS SALVAGEABLE JUNK HAS MINIMUM VALUE AS SCRAP AND THE OFFER OF \$800 IS CONSIDERED LIBERAL AND PROBABLY REFLECTS CONSIDERATION OF SOME PREVIOUS CANNIBALIZING FOR MINOR PARTS." EMBASSY BELIEVES FOREGOING ANSWERS QUESTION POSED IN REFTEL ABOUT SCHEDULE C ITEMS. VZP DID NOT OFFER PAY FOR BURNED TIRES BUT ONLY FOR SALVAGEABLE PARTS.

5. RE PARA 2, REFTEL, VZP ORIGINALLY REPORTED TO EMBASSY BY PHONE THAT REPAIRS TO FORD PICKUP 11-6 (SCHEDULE B) HAD COST \$300. HOW- EVER, WHEN WILSON LOOKED INTO MATTER WITH VZP, HE LEARNED THAT THIS WAS COST OF SPARE PARTS USED (ACTUALLY \$319). IN REACHING THE ADJUSTED FIGURE OF \$700 IN VZP' S DECEMBER 7 LETTER TO EMBASSY AND WILSON, A FACTOR OF 35 PERCENT WAS ADDED TO BASIC COST OF SPARES TO COVER FREIGHT AND INSURANCE, MAKING SUBTOTAL OF \$430.65, PLUS \$120 FOR LABOR ALD \$110.13 FOR 20 PERCENT G & A (GENERAL AND ADMIN- ISTRATIVE OVERHEAD). TOTAL OF \$660.78 WAS ROUNDED OFF TO \$700 IN ACCORDANCE WITH NEGOTIATING PROCEDURES EVOLVED BETWEEN VZP AND WILSON IN SETTING AGREED AMOUNTS. BASED ON FOREGOING, EMBASSY CONCURS THAT \$700 OVERALL REPAIR FOR FORD PICKUP, WHICH VZP PUT FORWARD, REASONABLE.
NEWBERRY

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